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FROM : AMEMBASSY, GUATEMALA — 1015 DESP. NO. — June 15, 1954 DATE

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REF : EMBTEL 910, June 7, 1954) 714.00 AR

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SUBJECT: Attempt to Link U.S. With Plot Against Government CSD-4

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INTER AMERICAN AFFAIRS
JUN 17 1954
FILE #1

The Communist Tribuna Popular on June 8 carried a story claiming that Ferdinand Schupp, who fled Guatemala on June 4 (Embtel 910 of June 7) was in reality a secret agent of the United States engaged in a conspiracy against the Guatemalan Government. A translation of the article is enclosed.

No further mention of the case has been made in the Tribuna Popular or other newspapers. This probably indicates a lack of knowledge as to the real reasons for Schupp's flight, and a failure to establish any proof of his alleged conspiracy. However, there exists the possibility that manufactured evidence may be produced at some future date in an effort to prove U.S. complicity in anti-Arbenz plots.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

William L. Krieg
Counselor of Embassy

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Enclosure
1. Translation.

2/9/82

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LGRichardson:cs
REPORTER

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EX-CHIEF OF USAF MISSION BETRAYS HIMSELF AS A CONSPIRATOR
(Tribuna Popular, June 8, 1954)

The flight of Ferdinand SCHUPP, ex-Assistant Chief of the USAF Mission here, on Friday, the 4th, at 1:02 P.M. (in a light aircraft piloted by Colonel Rodolfo Mendoza) is equivalent to a confession by these two persons of their serious involvement in the recent conspiratorial activities.

The light aircraft in which Schupp escaped is a Cessna 170, license number TGBIK.

Quite a while ago it was said that Mr. Schupp had quarreled with the Chief of the USAF Mission and for this reason retired from diplomatic service and resigned his commission as a Major in the United States Air Force. Now it is very clear that all of this was nothing more than a farce to pretend that Ferdinand Schupp was no longer an official of the Washington government, thus leaving him free for his conspiratorial activities. To complete the camouflage Schupp thought it convenient to go into the kenaf business; only he was working with the United Fruit Company and the anti-Communist Prado VELEZ.

At the time--and now the "American influenced" press also says it--it was stated that Schupp was living as a private citizen. Now it is clear that this was not so: he was "dedicated" to criminal conspiratorial activities in collaboration with Yankee interventionists.

Schupp was picked up by Rodolfo MENDOZA at one of the Fruit Company airports in Tiquisate and from there they flew to El Salvador where they asked for and obtained asylum.

This is a new instance which clearly demonstrates the intervention of North American diplomats in Guatemala despite the pretense of losing their jobs; because in Schupp's case the natural thing would have been to transfer him to another diplomatic post and not have him remain in Guatemala.

(Informal translation by LGRichardson)

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